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Plea by Sirhan

STATES-ITEM
OF PROGRESS

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Again Postponed; Mental Report

Await

Brain Wave Examination Authorized

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Smiling and jaunty but still nervous, Sirhan Bishara Sirhan received today another postponement of his plea to a charge he assassinated Sen. Robert F. Kennedy.

A judge set a new date of Aug. 2 after Sirhan's attorney, Russell E. Parsons, said psychiatrists' reports on the 24-year-old Jordanian have not been completed.

THE COURT ALSO authorized one of the two court-appointed psychiatrists to employ another doctor to make an encephalogram—or brain wave examination—of Sirhan.

The 5-foot-3 defendant, as in his last court appearance three weeks ago, was clad in tight black pants, a light blue shirt and black loafers. He looked shaved, but not too freshly.

Sirhan took about 30 steps from his cell on the 13th floor of the Hall of Justice to a makeshift courtroom with armor plating over its windows to help protect his life.

AT ONE POINT in the 15-minute proceedings Sirhan answered a question from the judge with a mumble not fully intelligible over the whirr of air conditioning. Apparently it was a request for sleeping pills—either to be given them, or be allowed

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Sirhan--

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to continue them. The point was not clarified in court.

About 100 spectators, mostly newsmen, gathered in the makeshift courtroom 50 feet from the cell where Sirhan is kept under constant heavy guard.

"The bailiff will now bring in the defendant," said Superior Judge Richard Schauer. A bailiff opened a side door. The wiry defendant strode in swiftly, glanced quickly around to get his bearings, then took a few steps to a vacant chair at the counsel table.

HE SHOOK HANDS with his attorney, sat in the leather-padded swivel chair and shot a smile at his brother, Adel, 29, who sat about 25 feet away against the white brick wall to Sirhan's right.

Sirhan smiled frequently across the room at Adel through the proceedings. But he appeared nervous. His right foot jiggled much of the time, the heel hitting the floor. He folded his hands in front of him on the counsel table. He brushed his cheek with his left hand. He chewed the inside of his right cheek.

Judge Schauer asked if the two-week postponement was "agreeable to you, Mr. Sirhan?"

"Yes, sir."